

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 128490
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 OES-07 TRSE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02
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APPROVED BY EA/J:NPLATT
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TREASURY:ERASMUSSEN
DOE/IA/IP:SMGRIFFITH
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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
INFO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 128490

TOKYO FOR BLOOM, PEKING FOR HUBERMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, JA, US

SUBJECT: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION

1. SUMMARY. JAPANESE EMBASSY COUNSELOR CALLED AT EA/J
MAY 18 TO REVIEW DEVELOPMENTS AND NEXT STEPS IN SCIENCE AND

TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION. JAPANESE EMBASSY HERE HAS
REQUESTED THAT GOJ CLARIFY (A) WHAT AREAS ARE OF INTEREST
TO GOJ, (B) WHAT ARRANGEMENTS ARE DESIRED FOR THE JOINT
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 128490

FUND FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (JFAST),
AND (C) WHAT AGENCIES OR ORGANIZATIONS WILL BE PRINCIPALLY
INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING THE ARRANGEMENTS
NOW UNDER DISCUSSION. HUBERMAN'S PRESENCE IN TOKYO MAY
23-24 WILL PROVIDE GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO PURSUE THESE
QUESTIONS FURTHER WITH GOJ. END SUMMARY.

2. JAPANESE EMBASSY COUNSELOR FUJII REVIEWED DEVELOPMENTS IN DISCUSSIONS ON S&T COOPERATION SINCE MAY 2-3 FUKUDA VISIT TO WASHINGTON. DURING THE VISIT, FUJII RECALLED, PM RAISED SUBJECT WITH PRESIDENT AND IN HIS MAY 4 SPEECH TO THE JAPAN SOCIETY AND FOREIGN

POLICY ASSOCIATION. MINISTER USHIBA MET SEPARATELY WITH AMBASSADOR HENRY OWEN AND DR. FRANK PRESS (PRESIDENT'S SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ADVISOR) TO ASK ABOUT POSSIBLE AREAS AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR COOPERATION. FOLLOWING VISIT, AMB. TOGO MET MAY 9 WITH DR. PRESS TO FOLLOW UP ON THESE DISCUSSIONS. TOGO WELCOMED THE POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM THE USG AND UNDERLINED GOJ INTERESTED IN SETTING UP JFAST, SUGGESTED NUCLEAR FUSION, SOLAR AND GEOTHERMAL ENERGY AS GOOD AREAS FOR JOINT WORK, BUT REGRETTED THAT

GOJ HAD NOT YET PROVIDED JAPANESE EMBASSY HERE WITH ADDITIONAL DETAILS OR CLARIFICATIONS OF ITS THINKING IN THIS AREA. DR. PRESS WELCOMED THE GOJ INITIATIVE AND SUGGESTED HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS AND DEEP SEA DRILLING AS AREAS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST. QUESTIONS OF THE LEVEL OF JOINT FUNDING AND POSSIBLE HIGH LEVEL VISITS WERE ALSO DISCUSSED, BUT NEITHER SIDE WAS SUFFICIENTLY PREPARED TO GO INTO GREAT DETAIL HERE, SINCE THE PRIME MINISTER HAD SUGGESTED THE IDEA ONLY A WEEK BEFORE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 128490

3. FUJII SAID GOJ HAD YET TO MAKE FIRM DECISIONS ON S&T COOPERATION BUT CURRENTLY WAS THINKING ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: THE JFAST COULD BE SET UP WITH A

CAPITALIZATION OF FROM \$500 MILLION TO \$1 BILLION. BOTH GOJ AND USG WOULD CONTRIBUTE ONE HALF. FUNDS WOULD BE INVESTED AND RESEARCH PROJECTS WOULD BE FUNDED FROM THE INCOME, NOT THE PRINCIPAL. RESEARCH AREAS COULD BE NUCLEAR FUSION, AND SOLAR ENERGY (INCLUDING PHOTOSYNTHESIS). IT IS NOT CLEAR EXACTLY WHICH JAPANESE AGENCIES WOULD BE

INVOLVED, BUT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY, AND MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FINANCE AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY WOULD ALL HAVE ROLE IN SETTING UP, FUNDING, AND OPERATING JFAST. PRESUMABLY US COUNTERPARTS WOULD ALSO WANT TO BE INVOLVED.

4. FUSION, SOLAR, GEOTHERMAL IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENTS. THE GOJ PREFERRED FUSION AGREEMENT TO BE AN EXECUTIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS SINCE IT COVERED BROAD RANGE OF ACTIVITIES AND AGENCIES, BUT THE SOLAR AND / GEOTHERMAL AGREEMENTS COULD BE BETWEEN AGENCIES.

FYI. USG IS STILL REVIEWING POSSIBLE BENEFITS OF CONCLUDING AGREEMENTS IN FUSION AND SOLAR FIELDS. ALSO, WE WOULD NEED TO EXAMINE THE LINKAGE BETWEEN THE AGREEMENTS AND THE JFAST. END FYI.

5. JAPANESE EMBASSY, FUJII CONTINUED, REQUESTED GOJ TO ANSWER QUESTIONS RAISED BY DR. PRESS AND OTHER ELEMENTS OF USG AS TO AREAS OF INTEREST TO GOJ IN ADDITION TO FUSION, SOLAR, AND GEOTHERMAL; FUNDING AND OPERATION OF

JFAST; AND IDENTITY OF AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE FOR FOLLOWING UP ON INITIATIVES. FUJII SAID THAT COORDINATION WITHIN GOJ TO CLARIFY THESE QUESTIONS MIGHT TAKE SOME TIME.
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PAGE 04 STATE 128490

6. PLATT SAID VISIT OF MR. BEN HUBERMAN (OSTP) TO TOKYO WITH BRZEZINSKI PARTY MAY 23-24 WOULD BE NEXT GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON JFAST AND GOJ INITIATIVES. SCIAT JUSTIN BLOOM COULD CONTACT APPROPRIATE GOJ OFFICIALS TO MAKE ADVANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR HUBERMAN TO CONTINUE EXPLORATORY CONVERSATIONS, BEARING IN MIND THE LIMITED TIME HE WILL BE THERE.

7. ACTION REQUESTED. REQUEST SCIATT BLOOM MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSULTATIONS WHEN BRZEZINSKI PARTY RETURNS TO TOKYO. VANCE

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